

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending in this application prior to this amendment and are still pending. Claims 1 and 18 are amended herein. Claims 6, 7, 11-13, 19 and 21 were previously withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 15, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 4,548,373 to Komura in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,455,975 to Foster, in view of U.S. Pat. No. 7,128,300 to Frick, and in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,471,165 to Twisselmann. Independent claims 1 and 18, as amended herein recite a combination of elements and limitations including, among other things, the recitations “a support structure extending between a floor and a ceiling of a hospital room, the support structure having a service outlet for delivery of a medical gas, the support structure having an arm mount including an upper platform and a lower platform, the upper and lower platforms each being closer to the ceiling than to the floor” and “an arm coupled to the support structure and supported in the hospital room for pivoting movement about a generally vertical axis, the arm having an interior region, a proximal end of the arm being situated between the upper and lower platforms” None of Komura, Foster, Frick and Twisselmann has a support structure that extends between a floor and a ceiling of a hospital room and that has upper and lower platforms with a proximal end of an arm that is situated between the upper and lower platforms. The only reference relied upon by the examiner as disclosing a support structure that extends between a floor and a ceiling is Foster. However, Foster completely lacks the upper and lower platforms that are closer to the ceiling than to the floor and between which a proximal end of an arm is situated. None of Komura, Frick and Twisselmann cure this deficiency of Foster. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 18, along with claims 2-17 which depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and claims 19-21 which depend from claim 18, are in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 8-10 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Komura in view of Foster, in view of Frick, and in view of Twisselmann and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,265,701 to Ogasawara et al.; the Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Komura in view of Foster, in view of Frick and in view of Twisselmann and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 7,197,109 to Rotondo et al.; and the Examiner rejected claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Komura, in view of Foster, in view of Frick and in view of Twisselmann and further in view of

U.S. Pat. No. 6,213,481 to Marchese et al. Claims 8-10, 14, 16 and 17 each depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and claim 20 depends from claim 18. Accordingly, each of the examiner's obviousness rejections is rendered moot because independent claims 1 and 18 are in condition for allowance as noted above.

It is believed that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If there are any questions or comments that would speed prosecution of this patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (317) 231-7341.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and that shortages in fees, if any, be charged, or any overpayment in fees credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 with reference to attorney docket no. 7175-74602.

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ronald S. Henderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

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